We Claim:

1. A purified polynucleotide or fragment thereof derived from a PS116 gene, wherein said polynucleotide is capable of selectively hybridizing to the nucleic acid of said PS116 gene and has (a) at least 50% identity to a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQUENCE ID NO 4, SEQUENCE ID NO 5, SEQUENCE ID NO 6, SEQUENCE ID NO 7, and fragments or complements thereof, or (b) at least 80% identity to a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQUENCE ID NO 1, SEQUENCE ID NO 2, SEQUENCE ID NO 3, SEQUENCE ID NO 8, and fragments comprising a contiguous sequence of at least 30 nucleotides or complements thereof.

2. The purified polynucleotide of claim 1, wherein said polynucleotide is produced by recombinant techniques.

3. The purified polynucleotide of claim 1, wherein said polynucleotide is produced by synthetic techniques.

4. The purified polynucleotide of claim 1, wherein said polynucleotide comprises a sequence encoding at least one PS116 epitope.

5. A PS116 polypeptide having (a) at least 50% identity with an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQUENCE ID NO 12, SEQUENCE ID NO 14, SEQUENCE ID NO 15, and fragments thereof, or (b) at least 80% identity with an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQUENCE ID NO 11, SEQUENCE ID NO 13, and fragments thereof comprising at least 9 amino acids.

6. The polypeptide of claim 5, wherein said polypeptide is produced by recombinant techniques.

7. The polypeptide of claim 5, wherein said polypeptide is produced by synthetic techniques.

8. A method for detecting PS116 antigen in a test sample suspected of containing said PS116 antigen, comprising:

(a) contacting the test sample with an antibody or fragment thereof which specifically binds to at least one epitope of a PS116 antigen selected from the group consisting of SEQUENCE ID NO 11, SEQUENCE ID NO 12, SEQUENCE ID NO 13, SEQUENCE ID NO 14, SEQUENCE ID NO 15, and fragments thereof, wherein said contacting is carried out for a time and under conditions sufficient for the formation of antibody/antigen complexes; and

(b) detecting said complexes.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein said antibody is attached to a solid phase.